

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A tool guiding device with a base frame (1) and guide rails (2) which are parallel relative to each other arranged on the base frame (1) and at least one carriage (3, 4) having a processing tool (13, 14) displaceably linearly guided via a carriage connector (10, 11) by a drive mechanism, the tool guiding device comprising:

the carriage (3, 4) coupled to the carriage connectors (10, 11) via at least one compensating device (9) having at least one angle compensation element (9.4) and at least one lateral compensation element (9.1, 9.5, 9.6);

the angle compensation element (9.4) comprising a ball element or a ball section element rigidly connected with the carriage connector (10, 11);

the at least one lateral compensation element including an intermediate piece (9.1) forming a ball socket (9.11), wherein the angle compensation element (9.4) is seated in the ball socket (9.11) of the intermediate piece (9.1);

the intermediate piece (9.1) either forming a further ball socket (9.12) on a side facing away from the ball socket (9.11) in which one of a further ball element and a further ball section element (9.5) connected with the carriage (3, 4) is seated in an articulated manner, or on the side facing away from the ball socket (9.11)

the intermediate piece (9.1) is seated on a bearing that is moveable transversely to a displacement direction of the carriage (3.4).

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The device in accordance with claim [[2]] 3, wherein the at least one carriage (3, 4) is maintained and guided on facing tracks (2.3, 2.3') on facing sides of the guide rails (2) by ~~one of revolving rollers and ball roller units.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The device in accordance with claim 3, wherein on respectively oppositely located sides of the guide rails (2) respective pairs of the guide tracks (2.31, 2.32) are arranged and in cross section are oriented one of angled and parallel with each other, on each of which ~~is~~ one of a revolving roller and a balls unit rolls off ~~the roller units.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The device in accordance with claim 4, wherein at two end areas located in a guiding direction the carriage (3, 4) has strippers (2.2) at least in the area of the guide tracks (2.31, 2.32), ~~and sealing a space~~

~~between the guide rails (2) and the carriages (3, 4) are sealing elements on the carriages (3, 4).~~

6. (Previously Presented) The device in accordance with claim 5, wherein rail guides (1.1) for fastening the guide rails (2) are cut into the base frame (1).

7. (Previously Presented) The device in accordance with claim 6, wherein the guide rails (2) are connected with the base frame (1) from a direction of the side of the base frame (1).

8. (Currently Amended) The device in accordance with claim 7, wherein the base frame (1) has a table (1.3) and two of the guide rails (2) are attached in a vertical orientation to a vertical section extending from below to above the table (1.3), and a gate (1.2) is formed above [[the]] a table top in a vertical section between the guide rails (2), so that access paths (12) to a treatment location of the tool are provided from four horizontal directions.

9. (Previously Presented) The device in accordance with claim 8, wherein an upper carriage (3) is arranged above the table top, and a lower carriage (4) is arranged below the table top.

10. (Previously Presented) The device in accordance with claim 9, wherein a passage (9.3) for an ejector (17) is formed in the at least one angle compensation element (9.4) and at least one lateral compensation element (9.1, 9.5).

11. (Previously Presented) The device in accordance with claim 10, wherein a measuring pickup of a measuring system (5, 6) is arranged between two guide rails (2) in the area of the respective carriage (3, 4) for adjusting a carriage position.

Claims 12 and 13 (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein at two end areas located in a guiding direction the carriage (3, 4) has strippers (2.2) at least in an area of guide tracks (2.31, 2.32), ~~and sealing a space~~

~~between the guide rails (2) and the carriages (3, 4) are sealing elements on the carriages (3, 4).~~

15. (Withdrawn) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein rail guides (1.1) for fastening the guide rails (2) are cut into the base frame (1).

16. (Withdrawn) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the guide rails (2) are connected with the base frame (1) from a direction of the side of the base frame (1).

17. (Currently Amended) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein the base frame (1) has a table (1.3) and two of the guide rails (2) are attached in a vertical orientation to a vertical section extending from below to above the table (1.3), and a gate (1.2) is formed above [[the]] a table top in a vertical section between the guide rails (2), so that access paths (12) to a treatment location of the tool are provided from four horizontal directions.

18. (Withdrawn) The device in accordance with claim 17, wherein an upper carriage (3) is arranged above the table top, and a lower carriage (4) is arranged below the table top.

19. (Withdrawn) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein a passage (9.3) for an ejector (17) is formed in the at least one angle compensation element (9.4) and at least one lateral compensation element (9.1, 9.5).

20. (Withdrawn) The device in accordance with claim 1, wherein a measuring pickup of a measuring system (5, 6) is arranged between two guide rails (2) in the area of the respective carriage (3, 4) for adjusting a carriage position.